



EPA Region 6



QUARTERLY REPORT

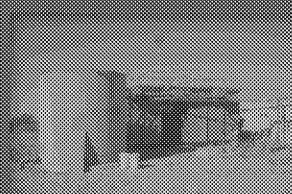
April - June 2016



US-MEXICO COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT
Implementation of Border 2020 Program
EPA-Region 6
X4-01F04901



Submitted by:
Javier Torres, Technical Assistance Manager



Comisión de Cooperación Ecológica Fronteriza
Border Environment Cooperation Commission

QUARTERLY STATUS REPORT

US-MEXICO COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT Implementation of Border 2020 Program EPA-Region 6

GRANT: X4-01F04901

Grant Period: August 12, 2015 - March 31, 2017

REPORTING PERIOD:

April - June 2016

TO:

Monica Wilson

U.S. EPA, Region 6 (6PD)

Environmental Protection Specialist

FROM:

Javier Torres

Border Environment Cooperation Commission

Technical Assistance Manager

July 30, 2016, Cd. Juárez, Chihuahua, México

US Mexico Border 2020 Environmental Program - Quarterly Grant Status Report

Grant Title:

US – Mexico Border Cooperative Agreement
Implementation of EPA Region-6 Border 2020 Program

Grant Agreement No.

X4-01F04901

Contact:

Primary Contact Name: **Javier Torres**
Organization: Border Environment Cooperation Commission
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Reporting Period (please check appropriate period):

- ☐ July 1 – September 30, 2015, Reporting period: report due on October 30, 2015
- ☐ October 1 – December 31, 2015, Reporting period: report due on January 30, 2016
- ☐ January 1 – March 31, 2016, Reporting period: report due on April 30, 2016
- ☒ April 1 – June 30, 2016, Reporting period: report due on July 30, 2016
- ☐ July 1 – September 30, 2016, Reporting period: report due on October 30, 2016
- ☐ October 1 – December 31, 2016, Reporting period: report due on January 30, 2017
- ☐ January 1 – March 31, 2017, Reporting period: report due on April 30, 2017
- ☐ April 1 – June 30, 2017, Reporting period: report due on July 30, 2017

Check here if this is the final reporting period under your grant ☐

Please explain any current or expected growth of your project. If there is growth potential, have you consulted with other partners for further or future leveraging of funds, for continuing the project after funding from the Environmental Protection Agency ends?

Not considered during this period.

Indicate the goal(s) and objective(s) of the Border 2020 Framework Document that this grant is addressing (<http://www.epa.gov/border2020>)

GOAL 1. - Reduce Air Pollution

Objective 1. - By 2020, in accordance with the NAFTA, promote the reduction of the number of vehicles operating in the border region that do not comply with the respective vehicle emissions' standards and reduce vehicle emissions at ports-of-entry through anti-idling and other feasible reduction measures.

- **Project type 1:** Support the development of vehicle emissions programs in collaboration with governmental entities in order to improve compliance, enhance detection and correction of non-compliance vehicles. In addition, capacity building activities to reduce air pollution, in the border cities or at the Ports of Entry (POE), which may include the enforcement of environmental compliance at the time of used vehicle importation.

Objective 2.- By 2020, reduce pollutant emissions in order to approach attainment of respective national ambient air quality standards (i.e. National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) or Norms as they are referred in Mexico) in the El Paso, Texas–Dona Ana County, New Mexico and at State of Chihuahua’s border cities’ air sheds.

- **Project type 1:** Establish joint collaboration strategies with governmental and/or non-governmental regulatory and planning agencies to identify and implement air pollutant reduction strategies to achieve better air quality in the Paso del Norte region (PdN). Projects should promote, expand, and be consistent with the strategies identified in PROAIRES (Mexico’s air shed management plan) or U.S. Clean Air Act (USCAA) State Implementation Plans (SIPs.)

Objective 3. – By 2018, maintain effective Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Network (AAQMN) and provide real-time access to air quality data produced at New Mexico/Texas /Mexico air sheds.

- **Project Type 1:** Initiatives for this objective should aim to ensure the long term sustainability and data quality for the El Paso, Texas – Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua air quality monitoring network.

Objective 5. - By 2020, reduce emissions and associated impacts through energy efficiency and/or alternative/renewable energy projects.

Possible projects could include: Border-wide training for border stakeholders in instituting and sustaining urban energy efficiency measures; green building training/workshops; forums in which states, localities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and industry can share program information and technologies; and energy efficiency co-benefits through reduction of criteria air contaminant emissions (stationary and vehicle sources)

GOAL 2: Water – Improve Access to Clean and Safe Water

- **Project type 1:** Efforts under this goal should be targeted to capacity building proposals that incorporate replication strategies, on proper maintenance and/or decommissioning of septic tanks, water conservation and pollution prevention in order to better understand, plan and maintain cleanup sources of drinking water on future groundwater supplies in New Mexico-Texas-Chihuahua border, specifically in Dona Ana County, New Mexico (particularly those communities along the corridor between El Paso, Texas and Las Cruces, New Mexico) and Luna County, New Mexico and El Paso County, Texas.

Objective 2. - Help drinking water and wastewater service providers in the border region to implement sustainable infrastructure practices to reduce operating costs, improve energy efficiency, use water efficiently and adapt to climate change.

- **Project type 1:** Conduct energy and/or water audits on small water drinking systems that serve communities with less than a population of 5,000 users, to identify recommendations on how to improve efficiency and provide cost-savings measures for that system.
- **Project type 2:** Outreach and education to improve water quality within the Gulf Task Force Region.

Objective 3. - Work bi-nationally to identify and reduce surface water contamination in Trans - boundary water bodies and watersheds.

Objective 3a. - Develop a binational watershed protection plan in the Lower Rio Grande below Falcon International Dam. Initial activities could include partnership building, watershed characterization, definition of goals/identification of solutions, determination of waste load, load allocations for each country, and development of an implementation plan.

- **Project type 1:** Continue to support activities that meet objective 3a– The proposals should address any water quality sampling and collection, data analysis, modeling and surveys still required by the bi-national workgroup on this project. In addition, the work should also support any additional training or workshops needed, among others, by the Amistad and Falcon Task Force, as well by the Texas-Coahuila-Nuevo Leon –Tamaulipas, Regional Work Group.

GOAL 3: Promote Materials Management & Waste Management, & Clean Sites

Objective 1. - By 2020, increase local and state-level institutional knowledge and experience in the area of sustainable material management practices.

- **Project type 1:** Proposals should be aimed to build capacity and establish strategies to improve infrastructure to minimize waste, maximize collections systems, support secondary materials markets, and reduce overall disposal in landfills and open dumps.

Objective 2. - Identify priority waste streams and by 2020 develop sustainable material management practices that strengthen their respective market value.

- **Project type 1:** Identify priority waste streams in the municipalities from Four States region and develop sustainable waste management programs for those municipalities to include strengthening the market value of the waste.
- **Project type 2:** Develop sustainable management practices to address used electronics, household hazardous waste, and tires in the Region which will include an educational component to promote recycling and solid waste practices.

GOAL 4: Enhance Joint Preparedness for Environmental Response

Objective 2. - By 2020, at least eight (8) of the sister city joint contingency plans will be supplemented with preparedness and prevention related activities such as certified training, risk analysis, and/or capacity building

- **Project type 1:** Conduct bi-national training to both U.S. and Mexican local emergency responders, on incidents involving Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, or Explosive (CBRNE), and/or all

hazards response skills enabling them to respond safely and effectively to these types of incidences.

- **Project type 2:** Conduct bi-national training to U.S. and Mexican local emergency responders, specifically on HAZMAT incidences only.
- **Project type 3:** Conduct bi-national: 1) tabletop drill with functional drill/exercise or 2) Full Scale Drill/Exercises to test local sister city plans. In order to meet the definition of bi-national, the drills/exercises should go beyond a simple notification to the local sister-city pair and demonstrate actual coordination of resources (expertise, equipment, personnel, etc.) between the sister-cities.
- **Project type 4:** Develop a hazardous materials risk analysis.

GOAL 5. – Enhance Compliance Assurance and Environmental Stewardship

Objective 4. - By 2020, implement at least five (5) binational workshops targeted to environmental enforcement professionals, including ports-of-entry customs professionals (i.e. Department of Homeland Security-Customs and Border Protection), to promote the exchange of information and improve understanding of each Country's respective compliance and enforcement programs and tools, including field studies.

- **Project type 1:** Proposals should consider events for information exchange to improve understanding each Country's respective compliance and enforcement programs and tools including field inspections and case development practices.

Fundamental Strategies

Promoting Environmental Health

- **Project type 1:** Projects presented under this fundamental strategy should increase engagement and participation by the community and stakeholders to better manage the environment and public health issues along the border.

Building Capacity towards Climate Change Resiliency

- **Project type 1:** The Border 2020 climate change efforts should focus on reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and on actions to help border communities become more resilient to the effects of climate change.

Summary of approved Work Plan activities performed during the reporting quarter.

Under this cooperative agreement, an RFP was issued in the U.S.-Mexico Border region of Region 6.

Projects in progress during reporting period:

Project ID	Goal / Fund. Strategy	Objective	Project Name
20288	1	1	Mejoramiento de servicios ambientales en ranchos ganaderos mediante el pastoreo, Ascensión, Chihuahua.
20283	1	5	Taller de eficiencia energética en sistemas de alumbrado público municipal, Reynosa, Tamaulipas.
20293	5	4	Reforma legislativa y educación ambiental, Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas.

20286	3	2	Manejo integral de residuos electrónicos, Piedras Negras, Coahuila e Eagle Pass, Texas.
20290	2	3	The Rio Grande/Río Bravo Water Quality Initiative, Laredo, Texas.
20291	2	2	Fat, Oil and Grease (FOG) Public Outreach Campaign, Brownsville, Texas.
20292	2	2	Concientización al reglamento para el control de descargas, Matamoros, Tamaulipas
20294	3	1	Let's Clean it Up and Green it Up, Pharr, Texas

Summary of the Work Plan performance outputs/outcomes achieved during the reporting quarter.

There are no performance outputs and outcome to report at the project level.

Are you on track with your timeline? Yes ☒ No ☐

A description of problems encountered during the reporting quarter that may affect the project schedule and a discussion of meeting the performance outputs/outcomes.

Project 20292 *Concientización al reglamento para el control de descargas, Matamoros, Tamaulipas* (Public Awareness Program for the FOG Program in Matamoros), was cancelled due to conflicts with the existing legal framework to implement the wastewater municipal code. It was suggested to the sponsor to reapply in the next RFP, once the municipal program is legally approved.

Resolutions to Problems Previously Reported.

No problems have been reported.

Activities Anticipated/Planned for Next Three Months and Budgeted Costs.

Coordinate with the sponsors the implementation of the projects in accordance with the approved Work Plans. Start the development of new Scopes of Work for proposed projects in coordination with the EPA.

Discuss what key personnel did on the project.

Joaquin Marruffo provided overall project coordination as well as the communication with EPA. Briselda Duarte, Armando Herrerias and Jorge Hernandez manage the kick off and implementation of the projects in close coordination with EPA. Marielena Constandse prepared this report. Marielena Constandse, Abril Quiroz and Javier Torres provided RFP coordination and Grant Administration.

Discuss any changes in key personnel.

None

Please name any significant partner organizations that you (as the lead organization) have for this project, who are taking responsibility for substantial portions of implementation.

N/A

BUDGET SUMMARY - Include information on the expenditure of grant agreement funds during the quarter and cumulatively by task in the provided budget tables. The tasks should correspond to the tasks outlined in your approved grant agreement work plan and the tables may be expanded accordingly. In addition, include in your narrative an estimate of funds needed to complete the work required in the grant agreement compared to the funds remaining in the grant agreement. *Note: This section does not substitute for the annual financial status report (SF-269) required by the grant agreement.*

TABLE 1

Summary of Quarterly Expenses by Category (Report Period April 1 to June 30, 2016)

Work Plan Tasks	Approved Work Plan Budget	Previously Expended	Expenses this Quarter	Total Cumulative Expenses
Task A - RFP	\$30,000	\$33,117.45	\$0	\$33,117.45
Task B - Projects	\$323,182	\$6,849.33	\$29,954.88	\$36,804.21
Task C - Logistics	\$65,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Indirect Cost	\$41,818	\$3,996.68	\$2,995.49	\$6,992.17
TOTAL Cumulative Expenses	\$460,000	\$43,963	\$32,950	\$76,914

TABLE 2

Budget Categories (programmatic costs only)	Task A	Task B	Task C	TOTAL Quarterly Expenses
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	-
Fringe Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0	-
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	-
Contractual	\$0	\$0	\$0	-
Other (specify)	\$0	\$29,954.88	\$0	\$29,954.88
TOTAL Direct Charges	\$0	\$29,954.88	\$0	\$29,954.88

Indirect Costs	\$0	\$2,995.49	\$0	\$2,995.49
TOTAL Cumulative Expenses	\$0	\$32,950.37	\$0	\$32,950.37

¹EPA defines equipment as items that cost \$5,000 or more with a useful life of more than one year. Items costing less than \$5,000 are considered supplies.

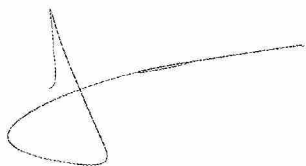
²Applicants must comply with the procurement procedures contained in 40 CFR 31.36, or for non-profits, with 40 CFR30.40.

What is the geographic scope of your project implementation? *(Include whether it is within the Tri-State and/or Four-State Region of Border 2020, whether implementation takes place in both the U.S. and Mexico, and any more specific implementation.)*

The geographic scope of this award covers the Tri-State Region, which includes the states of New Mexico, Chihuahua and the West Texas region; and the Four-State Region which includes the rest of Texas, Coahuila, Tamaulipas and Nuevo Leon.

I certify that this report is true and correct, project is on schedule except as noted, and funds are being utilized as planned and agreed to in the award document.

Signature of Project Official:



Printed Name:

Javier Torres

Title:

Technical Assistance Manager

Date:

July 30, 2016

Within 30 days following the end of each quarter, please submit this report to your EPA Project Officer.

ATTACHMENT “A”

THREE STATE (TX-CHIH-NM) BORDER 2020 - 2015 PROJECTS										
No.	Project ID	Goal / Fund. Strategy	Objective	Project Name	Project Implementer	Project Location	BECC Contract Officer & Project Manager	TAA signed	Amount Approved	STATUS
					Contact Information			Period Of Performance	Amount Disbursed	
1	20288	1	1	Mejoramiento de Servicios ambientales en ranchos ganaderos mediante el pastoreo	Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua – Facultad de Zootecnia y Ecología	Ascension, Chih.	Briselda Duarte (PM)	TBD	\$ 41,388.00	Project Status: The Technical Assistance Agreement (TAA) was transferred from the original project sponsor, the Universidad Autonoma de Chihuahua (UACH) to Texas A& M University-Kingsville (TAMUK) due to non-responsiveness from UACH administrators. Pending is the TAA signature from TAMUK.
								TBD		
								Amount Approved	\$ 41,388.00	
								Amount Disbursed	\$	

FOUR STATE (TX-COAH-NL-TAMPS) BORDER 2020 - 2015 PROJECTS										
No.	Project ID	Goal / Fund. Strategy	Objective	Project Name	Project Implementer	Project Location	BECC Contract Officer & Project Manager	TAA signed	Amount Approved	STATUS
					Contact Information			Period Of Performance	Amount Disbursed	
1	20283	1	5	Taller de Eficiencia Energética en Sistemas de Alumbrado Público Municipal de Tamaulipas	Secretaría de Desarrollo Urbano y Medio Ambiente	Reynosa, Tamps.	Briselda Duarte (PM)	2/22/2016	\$9,385.00	Project Status: Quarterly report delivered on May 26. Both trainings completed, project to finalize by August 2016.
								8/2/2016	\$ 3,802.15	
2	20293	5	4	Reforma Legislativa y Educación Ambiental	Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas, Facultad de Comercio, Administración y Ciencias Sociales de Nuevo Laredo	Nuevo Laredo, Tamps.	Briselda Duarte (PM)	5/26/2016	\$11,000.00	Project Status: Quarterly report delivered on June 3, with a progress of 20%, with the following activities accomplished: on Task 1, 600 surveys were applied among students about recycling awareness. Task 2 building capacity includes activities for next quarter: perform forums, and start the negotiations between TAMU and Laredo to exchange environmental information.
								5/2/2017		
3	20286	3	2	Proyecto de Manejo Integral de Residuos Electrónicos	Grupo Ecológico Green Tec-Osos del Instituto Tecnológico de Piedras Negras	Piedras Negras, Coahuila and Eagle Pass, Texas	Jorge Hernandez (PM)	1/21/2016	\$36,054.00	Project Status: The activities performed during this period were: Design of logistics management and collection centers; selection and training of personnel involved in the project; establishment of procedures and methodology for collection of e-waste and start up of the two collection centers in Piedras Negras. In the next quarter the project sponsor will work with the city of Eagle Pass in the e-waste advertising campaign.
								7/18/2017	\$ 17,305.54	
4	20290	2	3	The Rio Grande/Rio Bravo Water Quality Initiative, Laredo Texas	The University of Texas at Austin	Laredo, TX.	Briselda Duarte (PM)	2/22/2016	\$58,575.00	Project Status: First quarterly report to be delivered on July with the complete list of potential stakeholders.
								8/31/2017		
5	20291	2	2	Fat, Oil and Grease (FOG) Public Outreach Campaign, Brownsville, Texas	Brownsville Public Utilities Board	Brownsville, TX.	Briselda Duarte (PM)	2/22/2016	\$25,000.00	Project Status: First quarterly report delivered on May 2016, with an 11% progress. TV and radio spots ongoing, online and live presentations to civic clubs performed during April and May 2016. Reduction of 16% of FOG maintenance calls compared to last year during the period of Feb-April.
								2/2/2017		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Project Number	Project Title	Project Type	Project Status	Project Description	Project Location	Project Manager	Project Start Date	Project End Date	Project Budget	Project Notes
7	20294	3	1	Let's Clean it Up and Green it Up, Pharr, Texas	City of Pharr, Recycling Center	Pharr, TX.	Jorge Hernandez (PM)	2/22/2016	\$36,390.00	Project Status: Activities performed during this period include: the purchase of products and supplies for campaign, and stormwater and recycling workshops were carried out. For next quarter the purchase of a recycling trailer is expected, the establishment of a tire storage area, and the acquisition of 95 gallon bins.
								4/2/2017	\$ 15,696.52	

Amount Approved	\$	201,404.00
Amount Disbursed	\$	36,904.21
Total Approved	\$	242,792.00
Total Disbursed	\$	36,904.21

Updated June 30, 2016